

ITALY'S CATHOLIC DEMOCRACY

GREAT CONGRESS OF WORKINGMEN HELD AT MILAN.

A Protest Against Divorce—Demand of the Government the Reform Asked by Christian Democrats—Struggle Between the Catholics and the Socialists for the Control of the Laboring Classes.

Rome, Feb. 1.—On Jan. 26, Milan, the great, live city of Italy admired in the Teatro Fassi a sight worthy of a Christian painter. Forty-five hundred delegates representing 100 trade organizations and 100,000 workmen, including 10,000 women, applauded the programme of Christian Democracy. A workman, Signor Tagliabue presided. The proceedings began with the recitation of the prayer "Hail Mary." All these social forces, these powers from the lower strata, these voices from the factories and the fields humbled their souls before the Madonna of the workman, the poor and the humble. An electric current is being established between Leo XIII. and the working classes, effective sympathy, touching gratitude.

On motion of the President, the 4500 delegates sent to Signor Zancardelli, President of the Council, an eloquent address protesting against the Divorce bill which is now being pushed by the anticlerical forces. A Socialist assembly has the right to put such a protest at the head of its demands.

Italy has presented the Divine family feeling. A priestly legacy of Christian tradition, the religion of the family like a vivifying and purifying perfume has maintained in a country inclined to effeminate weakness the respect for austere virtues and fruitful life. As far back as 1870 the reform was talked of, but the movement was checked by Queen Margherita and the strength of popular feeling.

The preservation of Christian marriage thus auspiciously heads the social programme of the Catholic workmen. In the same address they demand of the Government economic reforms so that the life of the people may improve gradually; they ask for laws to protect women and children, for a weekly day of rest, for trade organizations, for labor unions, industrial and agricultural, and so forth. It is the list of demands which Christian Democracy makes in these countries, so that there is nothing new or sensational in them. What is novel is the workingman's congress itself, the people coming to a knowledge of its social power, the joyful, living, effective cooperation of the Christian with the democratic ideal; it is the first time into effect of the Pope's Encyclical to workmen. For this reason the meeting is important historically.

On this side of the Alps the dual is no longer between the House of Savoy and the Republic, the common people and the middle classes, anti-clericalism and religion; it is being fought within the democracy between the Socialist movement and the Guelph party. A false position of forces that is very regrettable.

Realizing that the dual is a strictly social doctrine nothing in contradiction of the Gospels and Catholic tradition. The day will come perhaps when the people, disgusted at the way in which it is being exploited, will return to the loyal straight path. But the jugglers, the pyrotechnists of militant free thought, frightened at the Pope's policy, have carried out the flank movement, which Leo XIII. with his prophetic foresight had ordered the Catholics to make. The Pope's directions about the "allment," about democracy and social reforms terrified the anticlericals, who, instead of the Catholics, have made their own that most strikingly timely charter. So the union of the secretaries with the Socialists is being formed openly. For this reason, particularly in Italy, the extreme Left has again put on the red cap and is carrying into the country districts the blended colors of socialism and of violent anticlerical thought.

The Guelphs are defending themselves. They have on the one hand to common people continue to be Christian. But the revolution is in motion and is spreading like oil on the waters throughout the villages of the North where the country curates are asleep in their retrograde conservatism. Poverty-stricken and pressed down the contadino of the land at the foot of the Alps is unlike either Balzac or Zola's peasants. His type is that immortalized in French literary tradition by Flaubert, Rabalais, Montaigne and La Bruyère; he is ragged, gloomy, passionate, sickly, living on potatoes. To him the Socialists bring the good news of redemption. Wherever the priests stick to their sacerdotalism the Massaniello of democracy reap easy crops. The "sufferer" of civilization, as Dostoyevski calls him, the pariah of the "Third Rome," revolts against his den and his black hearth when he hears their golden voices. It is on this account that Rome has taken action, a vigorous march forward. As in Belgium, the Catholics, by forcing the revolutionists, may win the first battle, perhaps gain the decisive victory.

In France like threats do not raise up like barriers. Yet if the Catholics wish to maintain their positions and to snatch from the anticlericals the people, which is still asleep or full of suspicion, there is no time to lose, no programme to be put off. The social movement is rising with all the powerful impetus of an irresistible tide and an inevitable need. Inexpressible sadness comes upon one at the sight of timid blindness, of Byzantine dissensions and of childish polemics. It is enough to make one weep.

What, here, if we may believe every sign on the horizon, every wave of the ocean, every warning of the pilots, there have the democratic spring time bursting forth, the natural bloom of twenty centuries of Christianity! And Christians, generous minds, valiant hearts, souls full of charity, are amusing themselves with the petty puzzles of the past, discussing the lawfulness of democracy, quibbling about what may and what must be ignored, sinking into pessimism when those who trust them are looking for saviors. Does not this sight recall the sophists and rhetoricians of the fourth and fifth centuries after Christ endeavoring to bar to Christianity, by their antiquated learning, the free road to the future? INNOVATION.

SNOWBAILED, HE USES RAZOR.

Italian Barber Slashes Man Who Tried to Protect Boys.

Mackias Struggivento, a barber, of 508 Eleventh avenue was snowballed by boys as he came from his shop last evening, and he ran back, got a razor and chased them. He was about to slash a little boy with the razor when John Brandie of 515 West Fifty-sixth street interfered.

The Italian barber slashed Brandie a dozen times on the head, face and arms and left him unconscious on the sidewalk. A policeman had by that time started after the Italian. Just as he had almost caught up with the barber the latter fell, cutting a deep gash in his chin, whether by accident or not the policeman couldn't say.

Brandie was taken to the Roosevelt Hospital in a serious condition. The barber was locked up.

ALBERT BIERSTADT.

The death of Albert Bierstadt on the 18th inst. removes a painter of landscape, who in his day occupied a very considerable position in American art. That his day reached its meridian thirty years ago and that the point of view of painters has changed considerably since then, as well as the attitude of the American public toward the art of its own painters, only make the reminiscence more interesting.

Born at Düsseldorf in 1830, Mr. Bierstadt was brought to this country when very young, his family settling in New Bedford, Mass. As a youth he was devoted to drawing and began to paint when about 20 years old. Resolved to adopt painting as a profession, he returned to Düsseldorf in 1853 and entered the Academy under Lessing; later studying for a year in Italy. In 1858 he was back in the United States and joined in the expedition of Gen. Lander into the Rocky Mountains and California.

The result was a number of large and imposing pictures of nature in its grandest aspects, such as the "Valley of the Yosemite" in the Lenox collection, "Mount Corcoran" in the Corcoran Art Gallery at Washington, D. C.; "Laramie Peak" in the Academy of Fine Arts, Buffalo, and "Lander's Peak" and "Mount Rosalie," which are owned in England. For the enthusiasm aroused by these pictures extended to Europe, and many painting visits which Mr. Bierstadt made to the other side of the Atlantic, still further increased his reputation in both hemispheres. He received medals in Austria, Germany, Bavaria and Belgium, the Cross of the Legion of Honor, two degrees of the Order of St. Stanislaus of Russia and the Imperial Order of the Medjidji, conferred by the Sultan of Turkey.

It was the same kind of success that greeted the work of Frederick E. Church, though perhaps still more pronounced, and it is noteworthy that it had its beginning in American appreciation. Possibly some day may have been attached to Bierstadt through his study in Düsseldorf, for those were Düsseldorfian days, but this would not account for Church's following and indeed it seems as if Americans of forty years ago were more enthusiastic than to-day over the work of their own painters. They did not wait for their painters to receive the endorsement of foreigners; they were, in fact, a closer rapport between the artist and the public, and in the less cosmopolitan society of that period, the artist occupied a position of respect and honor.

It is quite possible that pictures such as Bierstadt's appealed to a more naive taste; to that love of the big and imposing of which Barmen so prettily availed himself. But even so, this does not explain why a presumably more cultivated taste is so chary of doing justice to pictures in which such large and imposing pictures, often on the mere recommendation of a dealer, while it considers the purchase of an American landscape as something of a condescension and expects that the price shall be proportionately smaller.

Again, it is customary nowadays to introduce into this country the Düsseldorfian method of huge topographical landscapes, under the influence of his master, Lessing, who was a kind of mentalism and exaggeration. Well, if it were a question between the merits of this sort of landscape and that of the Barbizon school, the latter would be chosen. It is concerned at the moment rather with Bierstadt's personal contribution to American art. And I can quite believe that he was not a large figure in his age. The "movement of 1830" was in large measure a recoil from the barren grandiloquence of classicism, while Bierstadt's impulse was from the narrow conditions of the East to the wider grandeur of the West. Each, in its way, was natural and had nature for its goal. And it was because Bierstadt responded to the zeitgeist of his age that his reputation was great and deserved.

Landscapes by Charles H. Davis.

At Clausen's Gallery Charles H. Davis is holding an exhibition that will remain open until March 1.

He lives and works in Mystic, Conn., and the thirty-three landscapes shown here have the intimate feeling that comes of thorough comprehension and affection. The comprehension is not only one of feeling. Mr. Davis is an eminently skilful draughtsman, with a profound knowledge of construction and form and a practical ability to interpret both. Ground, water and sky are drawn with an assurance that establishes a sound foundation of fact for the thorough comprehension. One may easily overlook the importance of this, until some day one finds oneself before a picture that has much evident charm and yet fails to be convincing. Then one realizes that the sentiment is but a pleasant veneer, unsupported by substantiality; and what for the moment was pleasurable is highly rendered to a disagreeable and intolerably unsatisfactory, mere sentimentality.

The moods of nature presented in this collection are varied, but all are convincing. Highly rendered to a disagreeable and intolerably unsatisfactory, mere sentimentality.

HOWELL'S BELATED REPLY.

Author Sends His Autograph to Carter Harrison After Twenty Years.

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Twenty years ago Carter H. Harrison asked William Dean Howells for his autograph. Yesterday he got it, enclosed in the return envelope he had sent, stamped with an old-fashioned green three-cent stamp. To-day the bit of paper is the choicest treasure in the collection of signatures of famous men which Carter H. Harrison has collected and had received from his father.

The Mayor's request was written Dec. 24, 1882. The reply he received yesterday was:

DEAR SIR: I have at last found time for answering myself, yours very truly,

W. D. HOWELLS.

WEST FIFTY-NINTH ST., N. Y., Feb. 16, 1902.

The envelope in which the Mayor sent his request had been marked by him as follows:

"Carter H. Harrison, Jr., 231 Ashland avenue, Chicago," and on the envelope Mr. Howells wrote:

"Office of the Mayor?" as a guide to the postman. The letter went to the former residence of the Harrisons in Ashland avenue and was forwarded to the City Hall.

Mr. Howells last night explained his delay in granting the request for the autograph by saying that he found Mayor Harrison's letter with "the sickly-green stamp" the other day in an old letter file.

"I usually throw all such requests away," said Mr. Howells. "I found with it two other similar requests, one from a member of the United League Club. I granted all three."

This reminds me of the story of the boy who was sent by his father to get an armful of wood and ran away to sea. When he returned fifteen years later he saw his father through the window, got some wood, and brought it in, saying:

"Here's that wood, father."

"The old man merely nodded and said: 'All right. You can go to bed now.'"

Arnold, Constable & Co.
Lyons Silks.

Printed Shanghai, Charmeuse and Satin Foulards.

Evening Silks.

Crêpes and Gauzes, Brocades and Stripes.

Hand Painted Crêpe Broché.

White Silks and Satins

for Wedding Gowns.

Novelties for Bridesmaids' Dresses.

Black Silks.

Rich Brocades, Moire Louisines, Pekin Reps.

Velvets.

Broadway & 19th Street.

CHINA'S GIFT TO COLUMBIA.

FRENCH LINER'S SIGNAL.

"Not Under Control," to the Lucania.

Probably Meant Minor Mishap.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The Cunard liner Lucania reports that on Feb. 15, in latitude 40.19 North, longitude 72.47 West, she passed a French line steamer which was not moving and firing a signal that she was not under control.

The Lucania sailed from this port on Feb. 15. The signal "not under control" is a common one and may mean simply that the vessel flying it is making some minor repairs and wants other craft to keep clear of her. The French liner seen was about 100 miles east of Sandy Hook. She may have been La Touraine, which arrived from Havre last Sunday. She reported no accident.

JOHN J. MCGARRY DEAD.

Former Congressman and a Notable Political Figure in Brooklyn.

Former Councilman John J. McGarry, of Brooklyn, died yesterday morning at his country home at Lawrence, L. I. Complications following an operation for tonsillitis, from which he had been suffering for about five weeks, resulted in his death.

He was born thirty-three years ago in the Tenth ward in Brooklyn, of which his father, the late Alderman James McGarry, was the undisputed Democratic leader for more than a generation.

He was educated in St. Francis College and the Polytechnic Institute, graduating from the latter in his nineteenth year. He became associated with his father in his extensive contract work, and also early took a hand in the game of politics. When his father retired from official life in the Schieren-Boody campaign in 1893, he was nominated for Alderman and elected.

He was re-elected to the Board of Aldermen in 1897 and was chosen Councilman from his district. Soon after his election he broke with the Willoughby street managers, who resented his independence.

After one of the most bitter and protracted political factional fights in the history of Brooklyn, Mr. McGarry was elected to the Board of Aldermen in 1897 and was chosen Councilman from his district. Soon after his election he broke with the Willoughby street managers, who resented his independence.

It was mainly through his efforts that the great Central American Tobacco Company, which afterwards became the Cuban-American Manufacturing Company, of which he was President, was organized.

He was President of the corporation of \$25,000 a year as President of the corporation. It is estimated that he has left a fortune of over \$500,000.

He owned some fine horses and had a choice library and many valuable pictures at his country home. He was a member of the Brooklyn Club, the Democratic Club, the Fifth Avenue Club, the Manhattan Club, the St. Patrick Society, the Emerald Society, and various other organizations. He leaves a widow, the daughter of J. J. Alderman, and seven children, the youngest only a little over 10 years.

Obituary Notes.

James Hude Beekman, one of the older members of the bar, died yesterday at his home at 25 East Forty-seventh street. He was born in this city in 1814 and was a member of the bar since 1840. He was a member of the bar since 1840. He was a member of the bar since 1840.

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RUTHERFURDS CHARIVARIED.

JERSEYMEN WELCOME THEM TO "TRANQUILITY FARMS."

They Now Know They Are the Most Popular Couple in the State—Mr. Rutherford Comes Down With a Tenner, and the Bride Bows to Cheering Musicians.

ALLAMUCHY, N. J., Feb. 22.—More than one hundred farmers, young and old, together with their wives and sweethearts, gathered last night and descended on "Tranquility Farms," where Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop Rutherford are spending their honeymoon, and "belled" the bride and bridegroom. No one here, save those on the Farms, knew that the newly married couple was to come here after the wedding, which occurred at Grace Church, in New York, on Tuesday. It was not until last night that the farmer boys got together and sent the word broadcast through the settlement. The bride is a daughter of former Governor Levi P. Morton.

It should be explained to such as have had the misfortune to be born outside of New Jersey that no one was ever married in that State without afterward being callthumped and the popularity of the couple is usually gauged by the amount of callthumping they receive. Mr. Rutherford is now regarded as the most popular man in the State for no previous occasion was there ever as much noise made by a "belling" party as last night.

The party got together at O'Donnell's store about 8 o'clock. Some brought tin pans, others horns that had gone through every political campaign since Greeley ran for the Presidency. Two young men brought a horse fiddle. At 8:30 o'clock the word was given and silently the crowd proceeded to the mansion house on the farm. They stole up on the great front porch without being discovered and then, at a signal from the leader, the noise broke forth.

To compare the outburst to anything else ever heard under the sun would not be doing the party justice, for no boiler-making plant ever turned out a brand of noise equal to it. The horns tooted, the pans rattled and a man who had brought a bass drum pounded.

Above all the din could be heard ever and anon the discordant notes of the horse fiddle, which the bride drew his big bow across the resined ropes. Very soon after the sounds began Mr. Rutherford appeared at the door to inquire what had happened, but it was five minutes before he could be heard.

He inquired the object of the call and learning that a ten-dollar bill and a glimpse of Mrs. Rutherford would purchase everlasting silence, he quickly offered to settle on those terms. The money was produced and amid the cheers of the callthumpers the bride came to the door and bowed to her new neighbors.

At O'Donnell's store the ten-dollar bill was quickly turned into candy, navy plug and cigars. Some of the boys managed to get a dollar commission on the deal and this went to a farmer in the neighborhood who is famous for his brand of hair cider. When the cash had all been spent three cheers were given for Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford and the crowd dispersed.

NITRATE MEN ON STRIKE.

Chile's Greatest Export Business Disturbed by Labor Troubles.

Nitrate of soda is the largest resource of Chile. It is obtained along the north coast of that republic, a little inland, and comprises three-fifths of the value of all commodities which sell to the rest of the world. It is found in the desert and has the appearance of rock salt.

Mills erected at the mines crush it, various processes exclude foreign substances and it is then carried from the diggings on short railroads to the nitrate ports, where most of it is shipped to Europe to be used as a fertilizer.

None of the fertilizers in the market is of greater value to crops. It is widely used in the fields of Germany and France, and is used to a less extent in Great Britain and Belgium, and about one-tenth of the output is sold in this country. It is now in greater demand than ever and the high estimation in which it is held is shown by the fact that over 1,000,000 tons is sold every year to the farmers of Europe and the United States.

The nitrate industry at present is being disturbed by troubles between the exporters and the labor they employ. Shipments through Iquique, the largest of the nitrate ports, have entirely ceased.

The trouble is due to the fact that in December last the brakemen on the nitrate railroad ceased working because the mine owners demanded eight hours work with ten hours' pay and extra pay for overtime. The railroad company refused to comply and when new brakemen were employed the labor union refused to unload the cars of nitrate at the warehouses in the port. Then the exporters notified the workmen that no nitrate would be shipped till the cars were unloaded and the striking workmen were locked out.

The several labor societies having formed a union, have decided to hold out to the letter end. At last accounts neither side seemed disposed to yield and it was feared that disturbances would arise when workmen, who had been sent to the coast from the South, Nitrate was still being shipped from other ports to the north, but it is reported that they, too, will cease operations till all difficulties are settled.

If the trouble continues long the German sugar beet growers and many other farmers will have to use some other form of fertilizer. In many of the contracts made by sugar manufacturers of France and Germany with the growers of the sugar beet it is stipulated that a certain amount of nitrate shall be used every year on each acre of land devoted to beet culture.

Fire Insurance Raised in Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 22.—Fire insurance rates will be increased here 25 per cent. on all mercantile and manufacturing risks. The Virginia Legislature last year passed a law preventing companies from forming a combination to raise rates and the penalties are heavy, but the losses have been greater than the premiums for three years and two companies have been forced to liquidate. Notwithstanding the law there is a tacit understanding among the companies that a raise is necessary and that it will be 25 per cent.

Saved Colored Woman and Child.

An overturned lamp set fire last night to the apartments of Thomas Collins on the third floor of the five-story tenement, occupied by negroes, at 129 West Thirtieth street. Mrs. William Jackson and her three-year-old daughter were caught in the top floor, the hallway being closed with smoke and fire. Detective Kennedy and Policemen Bolles and Aiken of the Tenth station, helped Mrs. Jackson and her daughter down.

Steuben County Men Dine.

The sixth annual dinner of the Steuben Society was held last night at the Hoffman House. The members of this society all formerly resided in Steuben county, in this State. Former Judge William Rumsey was the toastmaster and the speakers were George H. Orant, John F. Murray, G. J. E. Jones, Lawrence Murray and Grant C. Fox.

"Pictureque"

Trunk Line of America is the title bestowed by travelers on the Erie Railroad. Service and equipment of the highest order.—A.E.

KOCH & Co.

125th Street, West.

The Newest in Ladies' Suits & Skirts

Exclusive styles, superior fit and workmanship, moderate cost and big assortments are the characteristics of our Spring showing.

LADIES' TAILOR-MADE SUITS, of best imported Venetian Broadcloths, with fancy Eton, blouse or double-breasted jacket; moire, taffeta, or Peau-de-Sole trimmed, silk lined throughout, with or without drop skirt; blue, brown or black; value 32.50. 24.75

LADIES' WALKING SUITS, of all wool Cheviots, invisible stripes or plain; Eton, blouse or jacket effects, new nine-gored flare skirt, entire suit piped with satin, finely tailored; brown, blue, Oxford or black, value 30.00. 21.75

LADIES' WALKING SUITS, of imported Melton, stitched yoke, strapped seams, full flare or flounce effect, finely tailored, all colors, value 11.75. 8.95

LADIES' DRESS SKIRTS, of best quality Moire Velour Silk, made with full taffeta-lined flounce; length, 38 to 44 ins., value 12.00. 8.35

Big Values in Silks and Dress Goods.

A beautiful assortment of Spring fabrics—interesting in variety—interesting in price moderateness—the specialties for Monday and Tuesday:

BLACK TAFFETA SILK, 19 ins. wide, an exceptionally good quality, reg. 49c. 49c

BLACK SATIN-DE-PARIS, an entirely new fabric, suitable for waists or costumes, reg. 98c. 69c

ALL SILK COLORED TAFFETA, 22 ins. wide, in all the latest Spring shades, reg. 95c. 69c

PURE SILK CREPE-DE-CHINE, 24 ins. wide, a superior grade, all colors, including black and white, reg. 1.00. 79c

BLACK ALL-WOOL CAMEL'S HAIR, 54 ins. wide, an especially good quality, reg. 75c. 59c